

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: DAIDO, Kunihiko et al. Examiner: Baskin, J.
Serial No.: 10/591,331 Group Art Unit: 3753
Filed: August 31, 2006 Attorney Docket No.: P-8839-US
Title: TORQUE-LIMITER-EQUIPPED HANDLE AND FLUID CONTROLLER
HAVING THE HANDLE

RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is being filed in response to the Election Requirement mailed May 22, 2009 by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified Application. A response to the May 22, 2009 Election Requirement is due June 22, 2009. Accordingly, this paper is being timely filed.

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Applicants note that the amendments to the first line of claim 6 in the preliminary amendment filed along with the Application on August 31, 2006 were not fully entered. The publication of the present application includes in the first line of claim 6 "according to either of claim 3". Applicants request that the preliminary amendment be fully entered.

The Examiner has required an election of one of the following Examiner-defined species:

Species I: Figs. 1-11 (drawn to claims 1-5 and 9, per the Examiner);

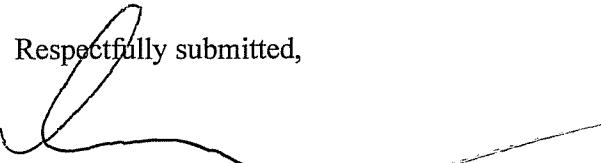
Species II: Figs. 12-14 (drawn to claims 1-4, 6 and 9, per the Examiner); and

Species III: Figs. 15-18 (drawn to claims 1-4, 7 and 9, per the Examiner).

Applicants elect Examiner-defined Species I, corresponding to Figs. 1-11 (drawn to claims 1-5 and 9), without traverse. Applicants reserve all rights in the non-elected claims to file divisional and/or continuation patent applications. Claims 1-4, and 9 are generic.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments as to this response, the undersigned may be contacted at the address and telephone number below.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with this paper; however if any such fees are due please charge such fees to deposit account No. 50-3355.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 16, 2009

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